IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1-5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Currently Amended)   A remotely configurable firewall comprising:

a firewall comprising at least one virtual host for providing network connectivity between a source and destination of IP-compliant traffic, the at least one virtual host having associated configuration files;

a configuration virtual host operatively disposed in said firewall, said configuration virtual host including an HTML-based configuration interface for allowing remote management of configuration files over an IP-compliant connection.; and

wherein said firewall may be remotely configured using a point-and-click interface provided by said HTML-based configuration interface.

7.   (Previously Presented)   The firewall of claim 6, wherein said remote management of said configuration files is only allowed from a specified secure client.

8.   (Previously Presented)   The firewall of claim 7, wherein a plurality of virtual hosts may be configured using said configuration virtual host.

9.   (Previously Presented)   The firewall of claim 8, wherein a remote user is authenticated prior to being granted access to said configuration interface.

10. (Previously Presented) The firewall of claim 6, wherein said remote management of said configuration files occurs using a Web browser.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for remotely configuring a gateway device comprising:

gateway device means for providing network connectivity between a source and destination of IP-compliant traffic;

configuration means for configuring said gateway device means;

remote management means for remotely managing said configuration means, the remote management means comprising an HTML-based configuration interface for allowing remote management of said configuration means over an IP-compliant connection.; and

means for providing a point-and-click interface for said HTML-based configuration interface.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said remote management of said configuration files is only allowed from a specified secure client.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein a plurality of virtual hosts may be configured using said configuration virtual host.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein a remote user is authenticated prior to being granted access to said configuration interface.

15.   (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said remote management of said configuration files occurs using a Web browser.

16.   (Currently Amended)   A remote configurator for a gateway device comprising:

a remote configurator module operatively disposed in a gateway device;

at least one virtual host for providing network connectivity between a source and destination of IP-compliant traffic, the at least one virtual host having associated configuration files;

the remote configurator module being configured to provide an HTML-based configuration interface for allowing remote management of said configuration files over an IP-compliant connection.; and

wherein said firewall may be remotely configured using a point-and-click interface provided by said HTML-based configuration interface.

17.   (Previously Presented)   The remote configurator of claim 16, wherein said remote management of said configuration files is only allowed from a specified secure client.

18.   (Previously Presented)   The remote configurator of claim 17, wherein a plurality of virtual hosts may be configured using said configuration virtual host.

19.   (Previously Presented)   The remote configurator of claim 18, wherein a remote user is authenticated prior to being granted access to said configuration interface.

20.   (Previously Presented)   The remote configurator of claim 16, wherein said remote management of said configuration files occurs using a Web browser.

21.   (Currently Amended)   A remotely configurable gateway device comprising:

a gateway device for providing network connectivity between a source and destination of IP-compliant traffic;

a plurality of virtual hosts operable in said gateway device, the at least one virtual host having associated configuration files;

at least one of said plurality of virtual hosts comprising a remote configurator host;

the remote configurator host being configured to provide an HTML-based configuration interface for allowing remote management of said configuration files over an IP-compliant connection.; and

wherein said firewall may be remotely configured using a point-and-click interface provided by said HTML-based configuration interface.

22.   (Previously Presented)   The remotely configurable gateway device of claim 21, wherein said remote management of said configuration files is only allowed from a specified secure client.

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23.   (Previously Presented)   The remotely configurable gateway device of claim 22, wherein a plurality of virtual hosts may be configured using said configuration virtual host.

24.   (Previously Presented)   The remotely configurable gateway device of claim 23, wherein a remote user is authenticated prior to being granted access to said configuration interface.

25.   (Previously Presented)   The remotely configurable gateway device of claim 21, wherein said remote management of said configuration files occurs using a Web browser.